



## WHAT DOES A TEEN VOLUNTEER DO?

The Summer VolunTeen Program at Brevard Zoo is a 10-week seasonal position that runs from May 27 through the first week of August. Once selected, the VolunTeen undergoes three (3) days of training May 23-25, 2018. Presence at training is required, inability to meet this requirement will exclude the applicant from consideration. Upon the completion of training, the VolunTeen will be given their official assignment **(10 days minimum, either 2 weeks of camp or a single day Sun–Sat each week)**. This is the absolute minimum requirement, please indicate your availability on the application. Late or incomplete applications, and applicants unable to meet the commitment, will not be reviewed. Volunteer schedules vary, but most assignments run from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., camp 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. VolunTeens may sign-up for additional days as they choose.

### Possible Assignments:

- Educate the public with Discovery Carts.
- Enhance guest experience with educational games and activities.
- Raise funds for conservation and educational programs.
- Assist staff with summer camps.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The program is for teens between the ages of 13 to 16 who are interested in animals and working with the public. Applicants must be 13 years old by April 1. Applicants do not need a vast knowledge of animals or zoos. The program seeks applicants that have:

- The desire to try new and exciting things.
- The willingness to be responsible and polite while working hard.
- Immense parental support for transporting the teen to and from the Zoo.
- Maturity required to represent the Zoo in a responsible manner and engage with guests of all ages in great communication.

## BENEFITS

There are numerous benefits to the Summer VolunTeen Program. Many students are able to use their volunteer experience to meet the community service requirement for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarships (please speak with the guidance department of your school on how to do so). Depending on their school, students may receive credit for their volunteer hours. Volunteers have the opportunity to work with Education Department staff and the public, gaining valuable skills for a variety of careers. Making new friends, earning potential employment references, gaining lots of experience, and a sense of accomplishment are just a few more reasons to apply!

## HOW DO I APPLY?

**Applications for Summer 2018 are due by 5pm April 8, 2018.** Completed applications and questions are scored according to a rubric based on complete responses. We are seeking about 20 summer volunteers. Potential candidates will be asked to join us for a group interview. All applicants will be contacted by April 23 regarding their status – if you have not heard from us by that time, feel free to contact us at the email below.

### Return to:

Jen Katona  
Brevard Zoo  
Zoo Teen Coordinator  
Education Department

8225 North Wickham Road  
Melbourne, Florida 32940  
**Questions? 321.254.9453 x375 or**  
**zooteens@brevardzoo.org**



# SUMMER VolunTEEN Application

Ages 13-16 (Teen Must Be 13 by April 1, 2018)

**Due Date: Sunday April 8, 2018**

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_  
(office use only)

## Getting to Know You

**5 points**

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ (You will receive communication from us at this address)

Address belongs to:  Me  My Parent

Alternate Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday \_\_\_\_\_ Current Age \_\_\_\_\_

Contact for:  Me  My Parent

School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

### Optional Information:

Have you attended any of the following programs at the Zoo?	Yes	No
Zoo Camp: # years? _____		
Zoo School (5 <sup>th</sup> grade)		
Jr. Zookeeper		
Youth Summit		
Homeschool Class		
Citizen Science Program		
Other:		

Have you applied for the Zoo Teen Program in the past?  
Yes or No

Did a current or former Zoo Teen recommend the program to you?  
Yes or No

If yes, who? \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the Summer Program?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please answer these questions on an attached sheet of paper in your own handwriting, use blue or black ink:

1. What interests you about volunteering at the Zoo this summer? How would this experience fit into your educational and/or career goals?
2. The Zoo's mission is "Wildlife Conservation through Education and Participation." What is one conservation issue that is important to you? What could you do to help this problem? Show your creativity! Feel free to include a drawing.
3. What activities and hobbies are you involved in this summer? How much time do you have available for volunteering? How will you organize your schedule to include volunteering at the Zoo while still participating in both your family and extracurricular activities?

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



# SUMMER VolunTEEN PROGRAM INVOLVEMENT CONTRACT

APPLICANT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

The Summer VolunTeen Program at Brevard Zoo is a 10-week seasonal position that runs from May 27 through the first week of August. Once selected into the program, the VolunTeen undergoes three (3) days of training beginning May 23-25, 2018. Presence at training is required, inability to meet this requirement will exclude the applicant from consideration. Upon the completion of training, the VolunTeen will be given their official assignment (**10 days, either 2 weeks of camp or a single day Sun – Sat each week**). This is the absolute minimum requirement, applicants willing to commit more time will be given greater consideration – please indicate your availability below. The regular volunteer day runs from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., camp from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. VolunTeens may sign-up for additional days as they choose.

Once accepted VolunTeens must pay dues of \$25.00. This covers the costs of a teen manual, teen shirt, nametag, and various supplies. VolunTeens are required to participate in a conservation event. VolunTeen positions are temporary, however, interested teens are encouraged to apply for the full Zoo Teen Program in the fall.

VolunTeen participants are allowed to miss two of their assigned volunteer days to account for summer vacations. On the third miss, the VolunTeen is dismissed from the program. The program does not provide make-up days. The program does not allow switching volunteer days with another VolunTeen.

Having read and understood this, please complete the following:

**Initial** \_\_\_\_ I understand that the Zoo VolunTeen Program is a 10-week commitment. I understand that I am allowed two (2) absences from my Volunteer Days. I understand that on the third (3) miss, I will be dismissed from the program. I acknowledge that sporting events, illness, and other activities are considered unexcused absences.

**Initial** \_\_\_\_ I understand that once selected, I will undergo 3 days of training. I understand that I must be present for all training days at the times specified. **5/23 – Early evening orientation with parent/guardian, 5/24-25 – Full days for teen only**

**Initial** \_\_\_\_ I understand that I must participate in a conservation event.

**Initial** \_\_\_\_ I understand that once selected, I will be assigned to assist with summer camps or to one day (Sun-Sat) each week. On this day, I am expected to volunteer the hours required.

**Assignment Preference:**       **Summer Camps**                       **Guest Engagement Activities**

**Write in Predicted Unavailability (specific days Sun-Sat or dates – ex: vacation/camp/etc.):**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_



# SUMMER VolunTEEN PROGRAM TEACHER EVALUATION

APPLICANT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

TEACHER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

COURSE \_\_\_\_\_

This form will be used to evaluate potential Zoo Teen volunteers. **For consideration, this evaluation must be returned to the applicant in a sealed envelope with your signature across the seal.** Completed applications are due at the Zoo no later than 5 p.m. Sunday April 8, 2018.

Please rate the student's performance based on the following numerical scale:

- |          |                           |   |
|----------|---------------------------|---|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Outstanding</b>        | <i>Performance is exceptional.</i>        |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Very Good</b>          | <i>Consistently exceeds requirements.</i> |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Good</b>               | <i>Competent &amp; dependable.</i>        |
| <b>4</b> | <b>Improvement Needed</b> | <i>Does not meet requirements.</i>        |
| <b>5</b> | <b>Unsatisfactory</b>     | <i>Unacceptable behavior.</i>             |

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Level of maturity.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Willingness to take initiative.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ Level of dependability and responsibility.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Level of participation and enthusiasm.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ Level of organizational skills.

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you recommend this student to be a Brevard Zoo Teen Volunteer?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_



**SUMMER VolunTEEN PROGRAM  
LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION**

APPLICANT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

RECOMMENDER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT (should be completed by an unrelated adult) \_\_\_\_\_

YEARS KNOWN \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

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SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_